

GREAT LOVE AFFAIRS

THE DUKE & DUCHESS OF WINDSOR

After the **death** of his father in 1936, Edward VIII became King of England. He was in love with **Mrs** Wallis Simpson, an American divorcee, and he **wanted** to marry her. But the British government did not accept her as Queen of England because she was **divorced**. He had to choose: continue as King of England or marry Mrs Simpson. He **chose** to stay with the woman he loved.

PAUL & LINDA MCCARTNEY

When Paul McCartney left the Beatles in **August** 1970, many people **blamed** Linda, his American photographer wife for all the **changes** and all the problems that **happened** within the band. Linda was the love of Paul's life, and in thirty years they only spent one night apart. She **died** of cancer in 1998 with Paul by her side.

MARILYN MONROE & JOE DIMAGGIO

The press immediately **picked** up on the **relationship** and began to cover it exhaustively, though Monroe and DiMaggio **preferred** to keep a low profile, spending evenings at home. Their marriage **lasted** less than ten months, but DiMaggio was always there for Marilyn. When the 36-year-old Monroe **died** of a drug overdose on 5 **August**, 1962, he **organized** her funeral and, until his **death** in 1990, he sent six red **roses** to her crypt three times a week.

SHAH JAHAN & MUMTAZ MAHAL

In the 17th century, Emperor Shah Jahan **built** the Taj Mahal in memory of his wife. He was **heart**broken when his wife **died** after nineteen years of marriage. One year after her **death**, the construction of the Taj Mahal started and it took over twenty years to complete. Six years later, Jahan **died** and was **buried** with his true love in one of the most romantic **buildings** in the **whole** world.

CHARLES & CAMILLA

When Charles **met** Camilla at a polo match in 1970, he fell in love with her. But then he **waited** too long before asking her to marry him. She got tired of waiting and married somebody else. Now, two **marriages** and a funeral later, Charles and Camilla are together again. While Lady Diana was alive Camilla was always discreet and never **answered** questions about the rumors of their affair.

GOLFING GENIUS

Tiger Woods was born on 20th **April** 1975 in California, **USA**, of **mixed** heritage: he describes himself as a quarter black, a quarter Thai, a quarter **Chinese**, an eighth white and an eighth American Indian. His father, Earl Woods, **named** him Tiger after a friend who **saved** his life in the Vietnam War.

He was only nine months old when he **started** to play golf and he played his first game at one and a **half** years old. His father was his first teacher. At the age of 13, he won a tournament and five more before he was 16. On 8th August Tiger Woods made golfing **history**. He **became** the first golfer to win all four majors (the most important tournaments) within the same year.

He is helping to make golf more **interesting** and popular with all **ages** and levels, and most people agree that he is probably the **great**est golfer of all time. Certainly, he is already one of the richest. He now earns more than \$50 million a year. He has a \$100 million deal with Nike and also has deals with American Express and Rolex.

What advice would he give prospective parents of golf champions? 'Don't force your kids into sports. It has to be fun'. The best advice he ever got? From his dad: 'Always be yourself'.

BLIND DATING

Paul

When I first **met** Sophie, I couldn't believe my eyes. She was amazing, the best-looking woman I've ever met. I **thought** she looked like a model or a **famous** person. She looked very **fashionable**, even glamorous, in a short black dress, so I was really glad I'd put my best **suit** on. I **fancied** her straight away and I think she **found** me attractive too.

I felt a bit **embarrassed** and **nervous** at first, but after a few drinks we **started** chatting, and then I felt more **relaxed**. I don't think we've really got the same sense of humour, Sophie is actually quite **serious** and rather difficult to get to know. She wasn't very **talkative** and she didn't tell me much about herself. But I think she **liked** my jokes.

I really **enjoyed** the meal and the service was excellent. The waitress was very **helpful**, and I left her a **generous** tip. I'll definitely go back to that restaurant again.

Sophie got tired towards the end of the meal. I **wanted** to go dancing, but she **said** she had to get up early the next day so I got her a taxi.

I think the evening went very well and I'm looking forward to seeing her again. She says she's **busy** for the next three months, but I'll call her then and hopefully something will happen between us.

Oh, and an **interesting** **story**: something funny **happened** when I **said** goodbye to her, she **called** me John.

Sophie

Paul didn't look like his photograph; I think it must be an old one. His hair was shorter and he was wearing rather unusual clothes, a sort of striped suit with a pink shirt. At first, I thought he was wearing his pyjamas. Anyway, I thought he looked kind and friendly and he had a nice smile, but I definitely didn't fancy him!

He's very talkative. In fact I didn't get a chance to say anything really. He laughed a lot at his own jokes too. At first I thought he was really funny, but then I got a bit tired of his jokes and I wanted to talk about more serious things, you know, get to know him a bit better.

During the meal, Paul paid a lot of attention to the waitress. That really put me off him and put me in a bad mood. When I got angry, I got very uncomfortable and quiet so I didn't talk very much for the rest of the evening and I was glad when the meal was finished. It was a miserable evening. I couldn't wait to get a taxi and go home. I discovered one thing, though. I'm never going on a blind date again!

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT?

Vinnie and Tanya first met at a cricket match when they were twelve, but they lost touch with each other soon afterwards. A few years later they met again in a pub, but then their lives took different directions. Vinnie spent some time in Sweden playing soccer before returning to London, where he continued his soccer career. He had a son with his girlfriend Mylene, but the relationship didn't work out. Meanwhile Tanya got married to a soccer player called Steve Terry and they had a daughter, Kate.

Many years later, Vinnie was sitting in his living room with a friend. The friend who was standing by the window said to Vinnie 'There's the most amazing looking woman outside. Come and have a look'. Vinnie got up, looked out of the window and there was Tanya, looking more beautiful than ever. She was now living in the same street as Vinnie, and a few days later Vinnie knocked on the door. They got on really well and spent the whole night talking. Tanya was now separated from her husband, and she and Vinnie became good friends. After a while, the friendship changed into love and they've been together ever since.

SCHOOLDAYS OF A ROCK STAR

Bill Wyman, now in his 60s, was a member of The Rolling Stones, one of the most successful rock bands in the whole world. Here he tells us about his childhood.

I was one of the three kids out of my primary school to get a place at a grammar school. I was delighted because I liked learning, but my father wasn't very pleased because I had to wear a uniform. The uniform was expensive and we were very poor. Also, I had to get a bicycle because the school was a long way from where I lived.

One day a boy from school invited me to his house. It was a lovely house, a palace compared with mine. My father said I couldn't invite my friend back to my house. In fact I didn't want my friends to come to my house, it was too embarrassing. We had no electricity or running water, and the toilet was in the garden.

There was no heating in the house. In winter there was ice on the inside of our bedroom windows, so getting out of bed was really hard. The only good thing about it was that we didn't have to have a bath every night. The water was too cold. School was going well. I was about 16 and about to take my exams. But one day my father said, 'Right, I've had enough of you in that school. You're leaving'.

I had to leave school and started working to earn some money for the family. The headmaster asked my father to let me take the exams, but he refused, and after that I couldn't go to college.

Anyway, that was the end of my education but I can't complain, after that I got into music and the rest is history!

MARIA CALLAS

Maria Callas was singing in Verona when she met the impresario Giovanni Meneghini. He became her manager and they got married. But Maria was unhappy in the marriage and in 1957, when she was staying in Venice, she met a colleague of his husband, Aristotle Onassis. Onassis started to phone her. He invited her to parties and he bought her beautiful presents. Maria fell in love with him and, two years later, she and her husband separated.

Onassis took her on holiday and Maria told reporters that she was in love. She said that she didn't love him for his money but because he knew how to treat women. She dreamed of marriage and wanted to have children, but after a while Onassis became tired of the relationship. He was now seeing another woman.

She saw him less and less often and then one day in 1968 she read a story in the newspaper about his marriage to Jackie Kennedy. It was not a happy marriage and Onassis started to visit Maria again. Sometimes she agreed to see him, sometimes she refused. Life continued in this way for some time but finally, in 1975, Onassis died.

At the time, Maria said, 'I have lost everything'. After this, she stayed at home and she did not look after herself. Two years later people could still see her on the island of Skorpios, crying next to the grave of Onassis. A little later, Maria died of a heart attack.